



TRUMP QUESTIONS U.S. INTEL, BACKS PUTIN ON MEDDLING

Comments at summit spark backlash from Dems, Republicans

BY JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS

HELSINKI

President Donald Trump stood next to President Vladimir Putin of Russia on Monday and publicly challenged the conclusion of his own intelligence agencies that Moscow interfered in the 2016 presidential election, wrapping up what he called a “deeply productive” summit meeting with an extraordinary show of trust for a leader accused of attacking U.S. democracy.

The reaction back home was immediate and visceral, among fellow Republicans as well as usual Trump critics. Republican Sen. John Mc-

Cain of Arizona called it “one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory.”

In a remarkable news conference, Trump did not name a single action for which Putin should be held accountable. Instead, he saved his sharpest criticism for the United States and the special counsel investigation into the election interference, calling it a “ridiculous” probe and a “witch hunt” that has kept the two countries apart.

Trump even questioned the determinations by his intelligence officials that Russia had meddled in the election.

“They said they think it’s Russia,” Trump said. “I have

RUSSIAN ARRESTED

■ **A4** • Woman accused of trying to broker secret meeting between Putin and Trump.

President Putin; he just said it’s not Russia,” the president continued, only moments after Putin conceded that he had wanted Trump to win the election because of his promises of warmer relations with Moscow.

“I will say this: I don’t see any reason why it would be” Russia that was responsible for the election hacking, Trump added. “I have great confidence in my intelligence

SEE **SUMMIT** • A5



CHRIS MCGRATH GETTY IMAGES

President Donald Trump greets Russian President Vladimir Putin as they begin a joint news conference after their one-on-one summit in Helsinki, Finland.



NELVIN C. CEPEDA U-T

Opponents of vacation rentals stand up when one of their advocates addressed San Diego City Council during Monday’s public comment portion of the hearing on regulating vacation rentals in secondary homes.

COUNCIL APPROVES LIMITS ON SHORT-TERM RENTALS

6-3 vote outlaws such stays in secondary homes in city; no special exemption for Mission Beach

BY LORI WEISBERG & ROB NIKOLEWSKI

In a move that will dramatically alter San Diego’s home-sharing landscape, the City Council voted Monday to outlaw vacation rentals in secondary homes, limiting short-term stays to one’s primary residence.

The effect of the action will be to curtail investor activity in the short-term rental market while also barring residents and out-of-

towners from hosting short-term stays in multiple properties other than where they reside.

While the City Council was expected to weigh a special exemption for Mission Beach vacation rentals that had already paid required transient occupancy taxes, a majority was not willing to go along with that. Roughly 44 percent of the housing stock in Mission Beach, long a popular destination for vacationers, is estimated to be short-term rentals.

The council vote was 6-3, with council members Scott Sherman, David Alvarez and Chris Cate dissenting.

One exception was made for San Diegans who have additional units on the same property as their residence, as in a duplex. In those instances only, a resident would be able to get a license for a second vacation rental. While not part of Monday’s action, council members said they would like to revisit the issue of granny flats,

which under current rules could not be used for vacation rentals.

The crackdown on Airbnb-style rentals has the potential to slash the city’s more than 11,000 vacation rentals by as much as 80 percent, estimated Elyse Lowe, the mayor’s director of land use and economic development policy.

“Today’s vote by the San Diego City Council is an affront to thousands of responsible, hard-

SEE **COUNCIL** • A8

DEPORTING REUNIFIED FAMILIES HALTED BY JUDGE

Temporary order blocks removal pending decision on 7-day waiting period

BY KATE MORRISSEY

A judge temporarily blocked the federal government from deporting families newly reunified with their children as officials work under court order to match more than 2,500 children separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border.

The decision is the latest in a class-action lawsuit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union to stop the government from separating families at the border and to reunite those who were already split apart. In June, Judge Dana Sabraw ordered the federal government to reunite families, putting a deadline of last Tuesday for children under the age of 5 and July 26 for older children.

Attorneys from the ACLU on Monday morning asked Sabraw to temporarily halt deportations while he decides whether to impose a more permanent seven-day waiting period between reunification and removal for cases where the parents have already been ordered deported.

In a court filing, the ACLU argued that giving families a week together would allow them time to decide what’s best for them, whether the children should stay to contest their own immigration cases or go back to their home countries with their parents.

“It’s hard to imagine a decision more profound and momentous that parents have to make,” said Lee Gelert, the lead ACLU attorney in the case.

Spencer Amdur, also an attorney with the ACLU, said he didn’t know of any cases in which a family had been deported right after being reunited

SEE **DEPORTATION** • A6

PETCOACH STORE A BREED UNTO ITSELF

Services emphasized in Petco’s first stab at new retail approach

BY JENNIFER VAN GROVE

Leaving behind its big-box roots, Petco is opening a new kind of retail store where animal-friendly amenities such as dog baths, play yards and treats fit for humans are meant to win over picky pet parents who would otherwise snub the mainstream brand.

Called PetCoach, the pilot San Diego store, officially

unveiled today, is the old pet store reimagined — literally. Located at 141 South Las Posas Road in San Marcos, PetCoach takes the place of a former Petco venue.

But here, instead of a smattering of products, shoppers will find that services such as veterinary care, grooming and dog day care not only dominate but dictate the entire experience. Food, clothing and toys are also available, of course, but they’re thoughtfully displayed by task, meaning customers should come for the care but find a relevant product — or five — in the

process.

PetCoach is the brainchild of Brock Weatherup, a Petco executive who runs the firm’s new initiatives arm and who relocated to town from Philadelphia after his app with the same name was acquired in April of last year. When his company was purchased, PetCoach was just an app that presented people with a cheap way of getting their pressing pet questions answered quickly by experts. Now it’s taken on a physical life of its own.

“The whole premise of this was, could we bring this high level of education and

validation all together ... and make it physically viable?” he said. “So you would be excited to walk in and go, ‘this doesn’t exist anywhere else.’”

And it doesn’t.

Rather, PetCoach looks like this: Upon entry, customers will see the animal hospital on their left, where resident veterinarian Dr. Christie Long presides over a clinic that can handle 90 percent of standard vet services, save for surgical emergencies. To the right is the grooming section, visible to curious onlookers, along

SEE **PETCOACH** • A7



CHARLIE NEUMAN

The self-wash room at PetCoach in San Marcos is used by customer Debbie George — and Riley.



HEALTH

WEATHERING CHANGE

It’s difficult to forecast how menopause is going to go, but there are healthy ways to cope. **E1**

U-T INDEX

Comics	C5	Editorial	B5	Lottery	A4	Scores	D6
Crossword	C7	Horoscope	C7	Markets	C3	Television	E3
Dear Abby	C7	Letters	B5	Obituaries	B4	Weather	A9

